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## Letter dated 30 June 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to the letter dated 19 March 2003, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force recorded on 17 and 19 March, on 7, 14, 16, 25 April, on 5, 15, 17 May and on 5, 16, 19, 20, 23 and 27 June 2003, as follows:

On 17 March 2003, one (1) Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus.

On 19 March 2003, one (1) B-200 Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus, where it had landed two days before, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Mesaoria and before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 March 2003, four (4) F-16 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 7 April 2003, one (1) C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. The aircraft departed on the same day.

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On 14 April 2003, one (1) B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. The aircraft departed on the same day.

On 16 April 2003, one (1) C-160 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before going back to the FIR of Ankara.

On 25 April 2003, one (1) C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. The aircraft departed on the same day.

On 5 May 2003, four (4) Turkish military aircraft (two F-4 and two RF-4) in one formation entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 15 May 2003, eight (8) F-4 Turkish military aircraft in two formations, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 17 May 2003, one (1) Turkish military aircraft of unknown type, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus.

On 5 June 2003, one (1) UH-1H Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko and after a while at the illegal airport of Krini in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus.

On 16 June 2003, one (1) B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it departed on the same day.

On 19 June 2003, one (1) C-650 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of the Cape of Apostolos Andreas, before exiting in a south-easterly direction, from where it returned on the same day.

On 19 June 2003, one (1) CN-235 and one CUGAR Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The CN-235 aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus, where it had landed on 17 June 2003 and flew over the maritime area of Kyrenia on a search and rescue mission, before landing at the same airport.

(b) The CUGAR aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the Nicosia FIR, flying over Mesaoria, before landing initially at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko and then at the illegal airport of Krini in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus. On the same day, the aircraft took off and flying over the area of Mesaoria, returned to the illegal airport of Krini.

On 20 June 2003, one (1) CN-235 Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus, where it had landed on 17 June 2003 and, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Mesaoria, exited towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 23 June 2003, one (1) CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it departed on the same day.

On 27 June 2003, one (1) Turkish military aircraft of unknown type took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Mesaoria, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest all the above-mentioned violations of the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, which violate international law as well as Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their immediate cessation. It is hoped that the Government of Turkey will respect the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus and refrain from further violations. The Government of Turkey should also heed the appeals of the international community to change its own negative stance and exercise its influence on the Turkish-Cypriot leadership, in order to contribute to the efforts to find a just and functional solution to the Cyprus problem, on the basis of United Nations resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) George **Kasoulides**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.